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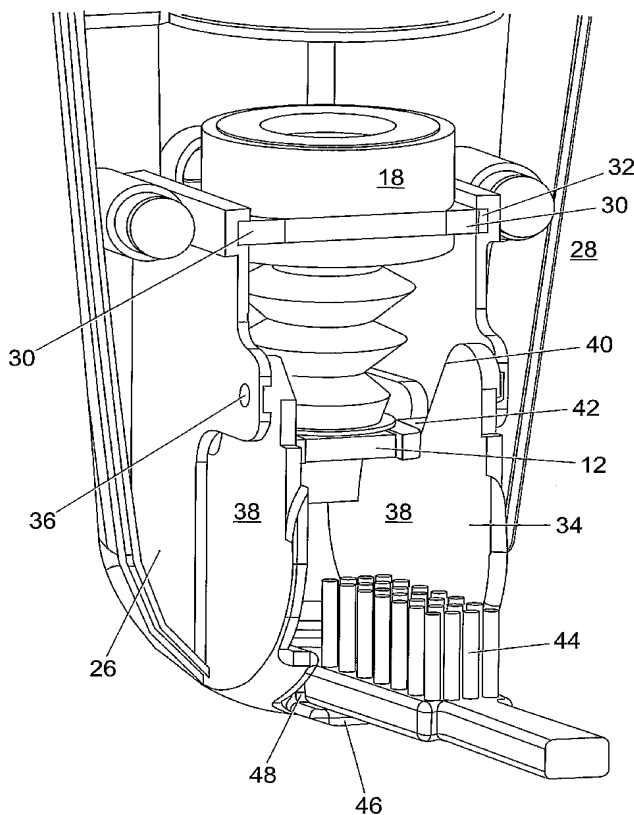
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(54) Title: DISPENSING APPARATUS AND METHOD



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to dispensing apparatus for dispensing flowable dentifrice materials onto a toothbrush head. A sub-assembly of the dispensing apparatus is releasably receivable within a casing (26) and comprises: (i) a resiliently deformable collar portion for receiving an opening of a toothpaste container; (ii) a one-way input valve (see Fig. 1); a one-way output valve (12); and a conduit separating the valves. A cradle member (34) having cam surfaces (40) is pivotably connected to the casing (26) and is provided with supporting surfaces (46, 48) adapted to receive a toothbrush head (44). A manual force applied by a user in a direction corresponding to the longitudinal axis of the toothbrush causes projections (42) on the output valve (12) to move up the cam surfaces (40). In this way, the volume between the inlet and outlet (12) valves is reduced and dentifrice material is directed onto the toothbrush head (44).

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